No Objection to Declassification in Full 2010/03/24 : LOC-HAK-548-3-7-3

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TO RODMAN/LORD FOR DR. KISSINGER ABOARD 86371
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T O P S E C R E T/SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD WH27205

TOHAK 90

INFORMATION ITEMS

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

INDOCHINA MILITARY SITUATION: IN NORTHERN MILITARY REGION 1, ACTIVITY DECREASED IN THE MARINE AREA OF OPERATION AS ENEMY ARTILLERY ATTACKS WERE LIMITED TO APPROXIMATELY 400 ROUNDS, AND GROUND ATTACKS WERE LIGHT AS THE ENEMY POSITIONED HIS FORCES. NEAR THE CITADEL, 11 ENEMY WERE REPORTED KILLED AND ARVN ARTILLERY REPORTED SIGHTING TWO ENEMY TANKS JUST NORTH OF QUANG TRI CITY. PROGRESS TOWARD RETAKING THE CITADEL REMAINS VERY SLOW. IN THE 1ST DIVISION AREA, CONTACTS CONTINUE TO BE MADE AROUND FIRE SUPPORT BASE BASTOGNE WHERE 20 ENEMY WERE KILLED IN GROUND FIGHTING AND 25 ENEMY BODIES WERE FOUND IN A B-52 STRIKE ZONE.

State Dept. review completed

ENEMY FORCES LAST NIGHT LAUNCHED A GROUND ATTACK AGAINST FIRE SUPPORT BASE ROSS WHICH PENETRATED THE PERIMETER AND FOR A SHORT TIME OCCUPIED TWO-THIRDS OF THE BASE. ARVN DEFENSES HELD AND WITH TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT THE BASE WAS REOCCUPIED. THE ENEMY LOST 159 KILLED, WHILE ARVN SUFFERED 22 KILLED AND 136 WOUNDED, PLUS 3 HOWITZERS RENDERED UNUSUABLE. CONTACTS TODAY HAVE BEEN LIGHT. AT QUE SON TOWN INCOMING ARTILLERY HIT AN AMMUNITION STORAGE AREA, DETONATING STORED CS GAS ROUNDS AND FORCING EVACUATION OF THE TOWN. PRIOR TO REENTRY BY FRIENDLY FORCES, ENEMY SAPPERS ENTERED THE HEADQUARTERS AREA AND DESTROYED SIX 105-MM HOWITZERS. SIXTY ROUNDS OF 122-MM ROCKET FIRE HIT THE TAM KY DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS KILLING ONE ARVN AND WOUNDING FIVE.

ARMY review(s) completed.

(/:58185 8, .6)85-46 43&89, 2 CONTINUED AT A LOW LEVEL WITH NO SIGNIFICANT CONTACTS OR DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED. THE TWO BATTALION OPERATIONLDWEST-SOUTHWEST OF PLEIKU CONTINUED ASTRIDE ROUTE 507 WITH NO CONTACTS REPORTED.

MODERATE ACTIVITY IS REPORTED IN MILITARY REGION 3 AS ELEMENTS OF THE 9TH VC DIVISION AND 69TH ARTILLERY COMMAND PERSIST IN EFFORTS TO PREVENT FRIENDLY ADVANCES FROM AN LOC TOWARD QUAN LOI. FRIENDLY FORCES MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY THROUGHOUT MOST OF YESTERDAY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF QUAN LOI AND REPORTED KILLING 21 SOLDIERS.

MORI/CDF C03353125

ACTIVITY IN MILITARY REGION 4 IS AT A MODERATE LEVEL. ARC LIGHT STRIKES AND ELEMENTS OF THE ARVN 15TH REGIMENT IN KINH TUONG PROVINCE KILLED 49 ENEMY.

IN CROSS-BORDER OPERATIONS, 7TH RANGER ELEMENTS SUPPORTED BY TACTICAL AIR KILLED 56 ENEMY IN A CONTACT SOUTH OF KOMPONG TRABEK. THERE WERE NO RANGER LOSSES.

THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 656 U.S. AND VNAF AIR SORTIES FLOWN IN VIETNAM YESTERDAY. OF THESE 371 WERE DIRECTED AGAINST TARGETS

END PAGE ONE

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IN NORTH VIETNAM. IN ADDITION THERE WERE 17 B-51 STRIKES OVER NORTH VIETNAM, 75 STRIKES OVER SOUTH VIETNAM AND 4 STRIKES AGAINST TARGETS IN CAMBODIA.

A MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA IS AT TAB A.

SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVES: SADAT REPORTEDLY HAS TOLD A CLOSED SESSION OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY THAT HE WILL BEGIN A "NEW INITIATIVE" ON SEPTEMBER 1 TO END THE STAGNATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES, THE SOVIET UNION, THE WESTERN EUROPEAN STATES, NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND OTHERS. HE DID NOT GO INTO ANY FURTHER DETAILS AND THE STATE-CONTROLLED RADIO IS HINTING AT EVERYTHING FROM BILATERAL APPROACHES TO THE GREAT POWERS TO A HIGH-POWERED CAMPAIGN LED BY SADAT HIMSELF AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEXT MONTH. IT IS BEING SAID THAT THE SPEECH CLEARLY INDICATES THAT SADAT'S CURRENT INTEREST IS MORE ON A PEACE MOVE THAN WAR.

SADAT IS RATHER UNPREDICTABLE AND WE WILL SIMPLY HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT HIS BIG FOLLOW-UP DIPLOMATIC MOVE AFTER THE EXPULSION OF THE SOVIETS AMOUNTS TO. WE DO KNOW THAT THE EGYPTIANS HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR HELP AT THE UN AND IN EUROPE, ALTHOUGH APPARENTLY WITHOUT ANY USEFUL RESPONSES. OUR INTERESTS SECTION IN CAIRO ALSO NOTES THAT, ALTHOUGH SADAT MAY NOT HAVE EXPECTED AN IMMEDIATE SHARP CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY FOLLOWING THE SOVIET WITHDRAWAL, OUR TOTAL LACK OF RESPONSE HAS BEEN PUZZLING TO THE EGYPTIANS. SO IT MAY TURN OUT THAT ONE OF THE MAIN PURPOSES BEHIND SADAT'S NEW INITIATIVE WILL BE TO SMOKE US OUT.

BOYCOTT OF MUNICH OLYMPICS: ON FRIDAY THE THREATENED AFRICAN BOYCOTT OF THE MUNICH OLYMPICS OVER RHODESIA'S PARTICIPATION SPREAD TO OUR OWN BLACK ATHLETES. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, LEE EVANS, 400 METER RUN WORLD RECORD HOLDER, ISSUED A STATEMENT DENOUNCING RHODESIA'S PARTICIPATION AND SAYING THAT AMERICA'S BLACK ATHLETES WILL STAND WITH THEIR AFRICAN BROTHERS. HOWEVER, EVANS DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE SAID WHETHER OUR BLACK ATHLETES WILL LEAVE THE GAMES OR NOT.

TODAY, THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) IS SCHEDULED TO MEET. GERMANY INSISTS THAT IT IS UP TO THE IOC TO DECIDE WHETHER RHODESIA'S MULTIRACIAL TEAM STAYS IN OR NOT. IF SALISBURY REMAINS, MANY THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES COULD LEAVE THE OLYMPICS.
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